

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 07951 231831Z
ACTION IO-14

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FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0022

UNCLAS GENEVA 07951

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: AORG, WMO
SUBJ: WMO PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 1980-83

REF: (A) GENEVA 7594, (B) STATE 129288

1. WOULD APPRECIATE DESCRIPTION OF CALCULATION USED TO DETERMINE THAT ACTUAL YEARLY INCREASES ARE AT AN 8.65 PERCENT LEVEL INCREASE, AS PER REF B. USING BASE OF \$45,291,200 AS CITED BY WMO ON PAGE 24 OF EC-XXX/DOC. 22, AN INCREASE TO \$68,758,000 IS AN INCREASE OF 10.7 PERCENT COMPOUNDED ANNUALLY.

2. WOULD FURTHER APPRECIATE ASSUMPTIONS UPON WHICH CALCULATION OF 3.99 PERCENT MANDATORY INCREASES IS BASED. ACTUAL INFLATION RATES IN SWITZERLAND ARE QUITE LOW. THE CPI ROSE 1.00 PERCENT FROM JANUARY 1977 TO JANUARY 1978. SOME OF THE ELEMENTS WHICH WOULD BE USED BY INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS ACTUALLY DROPPED IN THE SAME PERIOD; HEAT AND UTILITIES DROPPED 5.2 PERCENT. MOST RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITIES ARE PREDICTING THAT INFLATION TRENDS WILL NOT CHANGE IN THE NEAR FUTURE. A SECOND MAJOR ELEMENT IN MANDATORY INCREASES IS CURRENCY FLUCTUATION. MOST ESTIMATES ARE CAREFULLY HEDGED AND IT
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WOULD BE INTERESTING TO LEARN WMO PROJECTIONS. IN ANY EVENT, GIVEN FLEXIBILITY CLAUSES OF WMO, IT WOULD SEEM PREFERABLE TO INCORPORATE INTO FOUR YEAR BUDGET ONLY THE MOST CONSERVATIVE ESTIMATES.

3. DETAILS TO SUPPORT MANDATORY INCREASES ARE NOT ADEQUATE. BASED ON DATA AVAILABLE, MISSION CANNOT CONCUR

WITH WMO PROJECTIONS AND BELIEVE IT IMPORTANT TO STATE
EARLY THAT MORE REALISTIC CALCULATIONS ARE INDICATED.

4. SINCE THERE ARE SO MANY INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
IN GENEVA AND THEY CAREFULLY WATCH WHAT THE OTHERS ARE
GETTING, WE AGAIN REPEAT POINT OF REF A, NAMELY THAT
PROGRAM GROWTH PROJECTED FOR WMO EXCEEDS THE RATE THE US
CONSIDERS ACCEPTABLE FOR MOST OTHER AGENCIES. THE
RATE OF PROGRAM GROWTH PROPOSED FOR WMO FOR 1980-83
IS SOMEWHAT MORE THAN 6 PERCENT. BY CONTRAST, THE RATE
OF REAL GROWTH JUST ADOPTED FOR WHO FOR 1980-81 IS UP TO
2 PERCENT PER ANNUM. VANDEN HEUVEL

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